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BT
UNCLAS STATE 203212

E.O. 12356:6: N/A
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, HA
SUBJECT: FASCELL'S STATEMENT ON MANIGAT'S OUSTER

CONGRESSMAN DANTE B. FASCELL (D-FLA.), CHAIRMAN OF THE
HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, TODAY RELEASED THE
FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN HAITI:

BEGIN TEXT.

WHILE WHAT HAS HAPPENED IS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR, GENERAL
NAMPHY IS ONCE AGAIN FIRMLY IN CHARGE. ONCE AGAIN
PERCEPTION AND POLITICAL REALITY ARE THE SAME: THE ARMY
IS IN CONTROL.

THESE EVENTS OFFER NO SOLACE TO THE HAITIAN PEOPLE. THEY
WANT AND DESERVE A GOVERNMENT THEY NEED NOT FEAR; A
GOVERNMENT IN WHICH THEY CAN HAVE CONFIDENCE.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE REGRET SEEING A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT
OUSTED BY THE MILITARY. DESPITE THE MANNER IN WHICH
MANIGAT HAD COME TO OFFICE THERE ALWAYS WAS HOPE THAT
SOMEHOW HE WOULD BE ABLE TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF CIVILIAN
AUTHORITY. PRESIDENT MANIGAT OVER THE WEEKEND HAD SEEMED
TO DO JUST THAT BUT THROUGH AN APPARENT ALLIANCE WITH COL.
PAUL. HE IS THE SAME COL. PAUL INDICTED FOR DRUG
TRAFFICKING IN THE UNITED STATES AND IMPLICATED IN THE
HORRIBLE VIOLENCE WHICH MARKED THE CANCELLATION OF LAST
NOVEMBER'S ELECTION. THAT APPARENT ALLIANCE GAVE ALL
FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

HAITI'S DESTITUTE ECONOMY AND THE SEVERE POVERTY OF HER
PEOPLE DEMAND AN EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT. HAITI'S URGENT
NATIONAL AGENDA MUST NOT BECOME THE VICTIM OF POLITICAL
POWER PLAYS BY GROUPS WITH SPECIAL INTERESTS.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE VALUE THEIR FRIENDSHIP WITH THE PEOPLE
OF HAITI. WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK WITH A GOVERNMENT OF
HAITI THAT RESPECTS THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE
FOR GENUINE DEMOCRACY AND WILL RESPECT THEIR FUNDAMENTAL
HUMAN RIGHTS.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE HAITIAN ARMY WILL SEE IT WILL BEST
SERVE ITS OWN INTERESTS AND THOSE OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE BY
SCHEDULING NEW FREE, FAIR, AND HONEST PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTIONS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. I AM SURE THAT
THE UNITED STATES ALONG WITH OTHER HEMISPHERE DEMOCRACIES
WOULD BE PREPARED TO ASSIST IN ANY APPROPRIATE WAY IN THE

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END OF MESSAGE

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2. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

END TEXT.

UNITED STATES ATTITUDES TOWARD THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT WILL
CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON TWO
FACTORS: 1. THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT'S RESPECT FOR THE
RIGHTS OF ITS CITIZENS, INCLUDING THEIR DETERMINATION TO
HAVE REAL DEMOCRACY AND 2. HAITI'S WILLINGNESS TO HALT THE
USE OF ITS TERRITORY FOR DRUG SHIPMENTS TO THE UNITED
STATES.
GENERAL NAMPHY AND THE HAITIAN ARMY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO
SERVE HAITI. A CONSTRUCTIVE FIRST STEP WOULD BE TO HONOR
THE CONSTITUTION OF HAITI WHICH STIPULATES THAT NEW
ELECTIONS MUST BE HELD TO FILL THE VACANCY CAUSED BY
PRESIDENT NAMPHY'S DEPARTURE.

HOLDING OF SUCH ELECTIONS.

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PAGE 002

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